

City of FDL

City Connection

July 2017

THE FOND DU LAC PARK AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT IS PROUD TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY by John Redmond

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Summer is a busy time for the Parks and Forestry Department. The buzz of bees and hum of weed eaters is in the air. Our department swells from 12 full time employees to 31 for the summer months. This talented staff is tasked with maintaining our 20 plus park properties (which consists of over 500 acres), two pools (Taylor Pool and Fairgrounds Family Aquatic Center) and maintaining over 20,000 public trees along roadways and within our park system.

The parks spring and summers are very busy, with numerous festivals. From Walleye Weekend, Art on the Island, Father's Day Car show and The Taste of Fond du lac to name a few. Lakeside Park and Buttermilk Park are host to a variety of walks and runs for different organizations. We have numerous weddings, family gatherings and graduations that are celebrated throughout our parks.

Buttermilk Park has two music series that are very popular in the summer months. They are "Music under the Stars" on Monday evenings and the "Fond du Lac Symphonic Band" series

on Wednesday evenings. The Symphonic Band hosts numerous outside acts, including the "Kids from Wisconsin" on August 16th, which generally brings crowds of 4-5 thousand, so come early.

Our department also maintains the Lighthouse Harbor boat slips, which consist of 8 docks with a total of 232 rentable slips. Taylor Pool and Fairgrounds Aquatic Center are both open from early June until mid to late August. In this time frame the pools served 16,000+ and 24,000+ respectively, for a combined attendance of over 40,000 guests for the 2016 season.

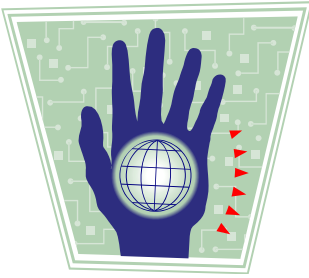
The parks do slow down a bit during the winter months, which allows us to do needed maintenance and plan for the following season. The parks have an extensive list of items that need to be winterized and this is all done by our staff. The lights for our Holiday displays are readied in November and installed throughout the parks. The



day prior to Thanksgiving is our fire up date for the lights in the parks and also the animated light show at the north end of Doty Street. Lakeside Park becomes a winter wonderland for tens of thousands of people to enjoy and if the winds are right, you may even see an ice shove or two at the end of winter. Sturgeon Spectacular was a new event to Lakeside Park in February of 2017 and will be back for 2018.

Our Forestry Department is tasked with maintaining a large quantity and variety of trees throughout the city. We have been a Tree City USA for the past 29 years and have also achieved the growth award 15 times. We are currently battling the Emerald Ash borer, which is keeping our staff busier than normal.

Welcome to the City Team

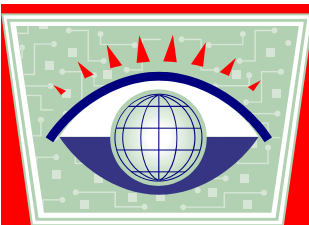


**Thomas Conto—
Civil
Engineer I**
I grew up in
Sheboygan, and

since moved to Plymouth after meeting my wife, Gretchen. We have two children; our son Owen who is nine and Olivia who is seven. We enjoy camping, spending time playing outside and vacationing on the gulf coast. Much of our free time is spent at hockey or baseball games with Owen and gymnastics meets with Olivia. If I find free time I love to hunt, fish, coach

baseball, work in the yard and any activities outside I can spend with the kids. I come to the City of Fond du Lac with more than 22 years of Civil Engineering experience in the private sector. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee with a Bachelor's Degree, I worked as an Environmental Engineer, but the majority of my career has been working as a Construction Project Engineer, managing Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) highway and local program projects,

many of which were in Fond du Lac County. I have managed various projects from urban reconstruction, bridge construction to highway improvement projects. Through my career I have also worked in several communities on infrastructure projects, private development, commercial and industrial facility. I'm excited for the opportunity to work for the City as a Civil Engineer and use my experience to help improve and serve the City of Fond du Lac.



**Alexandra (Ali)
Klimko—
Assistant City
Attorney**

Greetings! My name is Ali Klimko and I am the new Assistant City Attorney for the City of Fond du Lac. I have lived in Wisconsin for my whole life and hail to you from Pewaukee, WI. I attended UW-Madison for my undergraduate education where I studied Political Science, Environmental Studies, and European Studies. I just recently graduated

with my law degree from Marquette University this past May. During my legal education, I worked for the City of West Allis City Attorney, assisting in municipal prosecutions and other civil litigation. When I am not at work, I enjoy reading, hiking, running, and cooking. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone at the City!



**Cyndel Sawall—
Property
Evidence Clerk**
I am 27 years old

and I have always had a passion for law enforcement and the forensic aspect of public safety. I graduated from Fox Valley Technical College with an Associates Degree in Forensic Science. During school I spent a year interning with a local Police Department as an Evidence Intern. My spare time hobbies include clay shooting and helping my boyfriend work on his race car, as well as going to watch and support him at the track in Oshkosh and Seymour.



**Paul Torres—
Property &
Facility
Manager**

After serving 24 years in the United States Air Force, I'm really looking forward to starting my new career with the Fond du Lac Police Department as the Property & Facility Manager. I grew up in Southern California and joined the Air Force in 1993. My first 12 years in the Air Force I served with the Security

Forces Squadron as a Security Patrol Officer, Security Supervisor, and as a Flight Chief at Fairchild AFB, WA; Kleine Brogel Air AB, Belgium; Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait; and Kirtland AFB, NM. During my last 12 years in the Air Force I was assigned to the Office of Special Investigations as a Special Agent, conducting and supervising felony level investigations/operations at Kirtland AFB, NM; Grand Forks AFB, ND; Camp

Bucca, Iraq; Royal Air Force Mildenhall, United Kingdom; and Scott AFB, IL.

I have been married the last 23 years and have two daughters (15 and 10). I enjoy spending time with my family and I also train both of my daughters in fast pitch softball.

I'm really excited to get to know everyone, and after moving around for the last 24 years, I'm happy to settle

down and call Wisconsin "home."



Online Educational Program Builds Financial Muscles

Flex your financial muscles with ETF's 2017 Financial Fitness Program, a free online financial education and awareness program available to all Wisconsin Retirement System members.

Want to create and work within a budget? Learn how to build emergency savings? Increase your retirement savings sources? Learn more about your benefits as a Wisconsin public employee?

The Financial Fitness Program is designed to help you take control and improve your financial health and

wellness. This confidential and secure online program contains three steps:

Take the Financial Fitness CHECKUP — assess your attitudes, knowledge and beliefs about money.

Complete the free, online ACADEMY courses — go at your own pace over the course of a year.

Receive free financial advice for a 30-day period — consult with a COACH about your personal financial goals, public employee benefits, and more.

You choose which steps to

take and when. It's easy and convenient. Get started today or learn more about the program.

The Financial Fitness Program is offered by ETF in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Financial Security, the Personal Finance Employee Education Fund, the University of Oxford and the Financial Fitness Group.

Stay connected! Follow ETF on Twitter and use #FinancialLiteracy.



National Employee Health and Fitness Day Employer Challenge by Mary Leb

The City of Fond du Lac took 1st in our division for participation and 1st in our division for points per participant. Great job!

I want to give a special THANK YOU to the Fire Department. We wouldn't have won without your participation and points!

Employer	Employees Eligible	Participants	Total Points	Points per participant	Participation percentage
City of FDL	350	68	28973	426.0735294	0.194285714
National Exchange Bank and Trust	384	36	15261	423.9166667	0.09375
Fond du Lac Area School District	850	58	18890	325.6896552	0.068235294

Fond du Lac Senior Center becomes dementia-friendly

FOND DU LAC, Wis., (June 28, 2017) The Fond du Lac Senior Center staff has participated in the Dementia Friendly Community training and is now recognized as a Dementia Friendly Business.

The Fond du Lac Dementia Friendly Task Force work with area businesses to provide employees with specialized training to see the signs of, understand the needs of and respond appropriately to someone who may have dementia. They aim to educate the community by increasing awareness and understanding of dementia-

type diseases, decrease the stigma of the disease, foster community involvement and improve the lives of those living with dementia — where the person would be noticed, understood and accepted.

Once a local business has gone through the training, they receive a Purple Angel decal — an international sign that a business is “dementia-friendly.”

With an estimated 120,000 individuals living with dementia in Wisconsin and over 2,200 in Fond du Lac County, there is a need to

educate our community to recognize and serve this population with dignity and respect.

If you would like to participate in the Fond du Lac Dementia Friendly Task Force, learn more about its efforts or donate to the cause, please visit dementiafriendlyfdl.com or call (920) 322-3632.

The Fond du Lac Senior Center is a community focal point and meeting place for people 50 years of age and older, and offers a variety of activities including, social and recreation-

al activities, educational programs, a travel department and gift shop.

For more information about the FDL Senior Center and/or the FDL Dementia Friendly Task Force, please call (920) 322-3632.



City of FDL



[https://
www.fdl.wi.gov](https://www.fdl.wi.gov)

Baby News

Jude Gross
(son of Corby) -
Police



Milestone Anniversaries

25 Years

Steve Thiry (Police)

10 Years

Benjamin Stephany (Fire)

Jacob Vogds (Fire)

Alisha Abitz (Water)

Diane Kaczmarczyk (Library)

5 Years

Christopher Deering (Police)

Jon Mark Bolthouse (Library)



Welcome to the City Team (cont)



Andrew
Behnke—FF/
Paramedic

I have been a volunteer fire-fighter for the Town of Fond du Lac for 8 years and have lived in Fond du Lac all of my life. I love to bass fish, duck hunt, and do any other sort of activities that are outside. I am from a fire fighting family with my Dad serving as the Assistant Chief for the Town of Fond du Lac. I am very excited to be a part of the Fire/Rescue Department and working for the City!

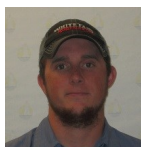


Nicholas Hatch—
Parking
Serviceman

I started in the Parks Department as a Parks long-term seasonal in April of 2015. I am married with two teenagers.

Ben Julka—
Garage
Attendant

My favorite hobbies include hanging out with my fiancé, and my dog, along with working at Menards.



Kyle Casper—
Wastewater
Treatment Operator
Hi, I am a UW-

Stevens Point graduate with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Soil and Waste Management. After graduation I spent three months interning at a wastewater plant in Illinois and was hired fulltime shortly after at another wastewater facility. After a year of working in Illinois, I was hired as a Wastewater Operator for the City of Fond du Lac. My hobbies include hunting, fishing, and being outdoors. I look forward to continuing my career in wastewater for the City.



Aaron Hafermann—
Wastewater
Treatment Operator
I graduated from

MPTC in Fond du Lac with an Associate's Degree of Applied Science-Water Quality Technician. I did a summer internship for New Holstein Water & Wastewater Department. After my internship, I worked at Plymouth Utilities as a Wastewater Operator for 4 ½ years. During my time in Plymouth I took Wastewater classes for the DNR and have all my certifica-

tions needed to be an advanced Wastewater Operator. I am married and have two daughters ages 10 and 12. We live on the east side of Fond du Lac on the ledge and my girls go to St. Mary Springs. I enjoy helping coach my daughter's softball teams. I enjoy spending time with my family and I love to hunt and fish. When I have time I also like to get my motorcycle out.



David Brown—Mechanic

I grew up in the Lamartine area on a little hobby farm. I graduated from Laconia High School in 2010. From there I went to

Fox Valley Technical College, and earned a Technical Diploma in Equipment Diesel Technician. After high school I also went to work at Fond du Lac Truck Sales as a Mechanic. I stayed working there for three years. From there I went to the City of Waupun working as a Mechanic in the winter time and working out on a crew during the summer time. I stayed working there for four years before coming to the City of Fond du Lac as a Mechanic. My favorite things that I like to do are really anything that includes the outdoors—hunting, fishing, camping, swimming, hiking, biking, working in the garden, and cook outs.

